

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the captioned application. The Examiner has required a restriction of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372. Applicants hereby elect to prosecute, with traverse, Group I, namely claims 1-5 drawn to an automated chromatography system. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected claims in one or more divisional applications.

Applicants respectfully assert that the claims are in allowable form and earnestly solicit the allowance of the claims 1-5.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being uploaded to the United States Patent and Trademark Office using the Electronic Filing System on September 19, 2008.

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